

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 091956  
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: NEA/IAI:GDKULICK:VBJ

APPROVED BY: NEA/IAI:WBSMITHII

S/S-O:SSTEINER

NEA:EGABINGTON

-----231443Z 095291 /47

R 230022Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091956

EXDIS

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM CAIRO APRIL 6:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 5811

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG PFOR EG US

SUBJ: CONOCO NEGOTIATIONS ON SINAI PETROLEUM ACREAGE

REF: CAIRO 5559

1. CONOCO NEGOTIATORS HAVE INFORMED US THAT THEY HAVE  
AGREED TO TWO-WEEK RECESS IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS FOR EXPLORATION  
AND PRODUCTION AGREEMENT WITH EGYPTIAN GENERAL PETROLEUM  
CORPORATION FOR SINAI ACREAGE.

NEGOTIATIONS HAVE EVIDENTLY REACHED DEADLOCK OVER SPECIAL  
PROVISIONS AND GUARANTEES WHICH CONOCO IS REQUESTING BEFORE  
ENTERING INTO AGREEMENT COVERING AREA IN SINAI,  
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ALMOST 90 PERCENT OF WHICH IS IN BUFFER ZONE.

2. EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATORS FROM MINPET APPARENTLY REMAIN  
UNAWARE OF SPECIAL STATUS OF BUFFER ZONE. THEY ARE ONLY  
BEGINNING TO ACCEPT CONOCO'S PROTESTIONS THAT SPECIAL  
TREATMENT NECESSARY, ACCORDING TO CONOCO LEGAL COUNSEL.

3. INTERESTINGLY, EGPC AGREEMENTS DIRECTOR TELEPHONED EMBASSY APRIL 5 TO REQUEST URGENTLY MAP OF SINAI II DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT LINES. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT PREVIOUS FOREIGN OFFICE AND EGPC RENDERINGS OF SINAI II LINES GAVE DECEPTIVE PICTURE OF OVERLAP OF BUFFER ZONE WITH BOTH GULF AND CONOCO AGREEMENT AREAS.

4. COMMENT: REQUEST FOR MAP MAY BE INDICATION THAT EGPC BEGINNING TO ACCEPT FACT THAT BUFFER ZONE DOES PRESENT AMERICAN COMPANY WITH CERTAIN SPECIAL PROBLEMS. MATTHEWS UNQUOTE VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, NEGOTIATIONS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009